Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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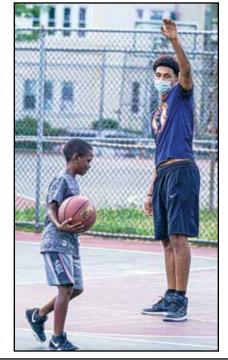
Distanced basketball drills resumed on the courts at Town Field in Fields Corner after Dorchester Youth Collaborative brought back its athletic programming earlier this month.

In Fields Corner, a refuge for teens renews its mission in a time of strains

By Daniel Sheehan ARTS & FEATURES EDITOR

On Monday afternoon at Dorchester Youth Collaborative's Fields Corner headquarters, Emmett Folgert and his small staff were spread across a cluster of sofas, engaged in solemn conversation. On the other side of the room, four teenagers wearing masks ribbed one another, eyes glued to a TV screen as they played a basketball video game.

After the mayor declared a heat emergency that morning, Folgert decided to move the day's activities into the air-conditioned space instead of on the basketball courts baking in the sun just across the street at Town Field. Since Folgert founded the Dorchester Youth Collaborative (DYC) in 1981, the non-profit organization has been a place of



refuge for neighborhood kids and a source of mentorship meant to steer them away from drugs and gang violence and toward job opportunities and higher education. On Monday, it also provided shelter from the sweltering heat. As the staff talked among themselves, a senior volunteer — whom the kids know only by his nickname, Nugget- posed a question: "Why are kids dying to die?" The previous day, the older brother of a DYC teen member had been shot and killed on Sumner Street in Dorchester — the fourth gun homicide that week and the tenth in Boston in the month of July. Folgert considered the question carefully, then answered: "Many of them feel they have nothing to lose. The ones who have given up. Nobody starts out wanting (Continued on page 10)

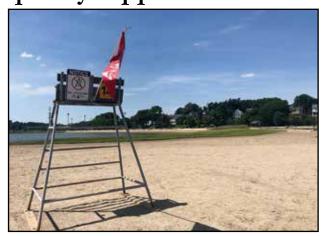
Study: Water quality dipped at Dot beaches last year

Neponset pollution seen as key

By KATIE TROJANO REPORTER STAFF

Water quality at Dorchester's three beaches worsened last year, according to a new report by the non-profit Save the Harbor/Save the Bay that tracks yearto-year data at urban beaches.

In 2019, the overall safety rating for regional beaches managed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation was 88 percent overall, a de-



The red flag ("unsafe") was up on Monday at Malibu Bill Forry photo

of 94 percent. In Dorchester, Malibu Beach scored at 83 percent, down from the previous year's 91.

cline from the 2019 score Savin Hill Beach declined from 100 percent to 79 percent and Tenean Beach went from 78 to 67 percent, making it

the unsafest beach for swimming.

The scores reflect the percent of samples that complied with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's single sample limit for bacteria, which the report calls "the most straightforward way of evaluating beach water quality and potential impacts on human health.'

Four of the region's fifteen public beaches -Carson Beach, M Street Beach, City Point Beach, and Pleasure Bay, all in South Boston-achieved a perfect score of 100 percent. Water quality at

(Continued on page 16)

No 'winding down' of virus, says Walsh; a rise in state cases spurs travel cautions

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

Mayor Walsh used his press conference on Tuesday to warn Bostonians against letting their guards down in the struggle to contain the COVID-19 virus amid a slight rise in reported cases in Massachusetts and more stringent restrictions for people who travel here from outside of the region.

"If we think we're winding down with CO-VID-19, we're not," the mayor told reporters outside City Hall. "If we think of it like a sporting event, we're probably at half-time which means we've got another 6, 7, 8, or 9 months to go. So, we still have to be very

As of Tuesday, coronavirus cases in the city have reached a total of 14,022, with 10,090 recoveries and 727 deaths. Walsh said that 51 new cases — and a single death— were reported in Boston on Monday, a cumulative number that included Saturday and Sunday.

State public health officials reported 182 new cases on Monday and announced the recent deaths of 7 people with the disease, raising the state's cumulative caseload to 108,562 and increasing the death toll to about 8,320. When also counting people who have probably died $from \, the \, virus, the \, death$ count is close to 8,540 since March 20.

(Continued on page 15)

Boston should take the lead on testing students for virus

By BILL WALCZAK REPORTER CONTRIBUTOR

A game-changing idea that could allow our children to safely go back to school is the subject of a Harvard study. Boston needs to be the location where this idea is implemented first.

Commentary

An April 1 article in the New York Times by Dr. Joshua Rabinowitz and

Caroline Bartman headlined "These Coronavirus Exposures Might Be the Most Dangerous" noted that "the importance of viral dose is being overlooked in discussions of the coronavirus. As with any other poison, viruses are usually more dangerous in larger amounts."

This observation stuck with me because a very close friend died a few days later from COVID-19 after spending several hours doing two nurse visits with an older man who had the virus. And so, it wasn't a surprise to hear on the July 15 edition of "This Week in Virology" (TWIV) that people who have been infected with coronavirus are only infectious to otl ers during a period when their "viral load" is high.

TWIV guest Dr. Michael Mina, a Harvard infectious disease specialist, connected viral load to the (Continued on page 13)

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Crime-scene video: Watch as a thief in the night steals equipment, tools from a plumber's truck

By ED FORRY REPORTER CO-FOUNDER

"Hi, Ed. Just wanted to let you know that my truck was broken into last night. They stole a few very expensive tools." That text message arrived on my phone Saturday morning. It was sent by my upstairs neighbor, a self-employed plumber who parks his work vehicle overnight in our driveway.

This marked the second time he and his wife have been victimized. Last winter, in the middle of the night, three men broke into her SUV, hot-wired it, and drove off. The stolen car was found the next day a couple of miles away.

I told my neighbor that I would check to see if our security cameras had captured anything of the crime in the way the video had recorded the three guys who had stolen his wife's vehicle. I was guessing it might have been that loathsome threesome again, or maybe even a driveby criminal who spotted the plumber's van and decided to make a quick hit to steal something of value.

Playing back the overnight video, starting at midnight and continuing on through first light around 4:45, was tedious. It's usually quiet here in the wee hours,



Private security footage showed a motor-vehicle larceny in progress last weekend on Richmond Street. Inset: Another image of the suspect.

with the occasional car passing by and the quick trot-by of a neighborhood coyote, which the cameras caught the night before.

Then, at about 2:40 a.m., came the first sign of movement, in the shadows of the sidewalk next door, the sight of a man slowly walking down the street. A tall, lanky figure, he wore a flat backpack, black and white sneakers, and a T shirt with some sort of lettering. He seemed to

walk with a limp, or a shuffle, and clearly was in no hurry to get where he was going.

But it soon became clear that he was up to no good, a thief in the night.

He stopped at every parked car, peering into windows and rattling door handles. He stopped at the next-door driveway for quite some time, peering into the family car parked in the driveway. And then he moved on to eyeball a pick-up truck, and then an SUV outside my front door.

Finding an unlocked door, he climbed into the passenger side, closing the door behind him. My guess is that he was rummaging through the glove box, the change purse and anything else that might hold something valuable. He was inside for three or four minutes, and then

emerged to continue on his felonious mission in our driveway.

Parked there was my neighbor's truck, filled with valuable plumbing tools and supplies. Moving just outside the range of the cameras, the man apparently spent some time jimmying the side door before returning to the sidewalk, where he can be seen opening the back door. He was inside the truck for just three or four minutes, and when he came out, his backpack and a second bag were filled, no doubt with the expensive plumbing equipment he had just taken from the truck.

The thief slowly walked into the middle of the street, and as he struggled to adjust the heavy bags on his back and shoulders, a passing car went by, bathing him in its headlights. But he went unnoticed. Gradually he righted himself, with maybe 30 or 40 pounds of weight on his back, and slowly started his walk back to

wherever he came from. All this activity was captured on the security cameras on Saturday morning, July 25, between 2:40 a.m. and 3:15 am. The way the

criminal moved showed he had no concern about being caught; he just went on his way under the cover of darkness.

The grainy images on the security video do not show any detail of his face, nor of the lettering on his shirt. But someone who knows him might recognize him by his slow, uneven gait, his thin, lanky body, or the unusual appearance of his two-toned sneakers.

The guess here is that this isn't the first time this overnight prowler has stolen in the neighborhood, and it won't be the last. Knowing such activities are going on outside our homes as we sleep can be chilling. It's a reminder to lock doors — to your home, to your cars and vans - and leave nothing of value in your vehicles.

Boston Police are investigating the incident.

Statistics compiled and made public by the Boston Police indicate that Larcenies from Motor Vehicles— one of several crime categories tracked year-to-year by authorities- are up significantly so far in 2020 compared to the same time frame in 2019. Citywide, there have been 420 more incidents of car breakins this year compared to last year. In District C-11, there this crime took place last weekend, there have been an uptick from 256 last year to 284 so far this year. In B-3, which includes parts of Dorchester and Mattapan, the number has jumped from 109 to 162, through July 26.

Overall, "Part One" crime in Boston has decreased by 3 percent compared to the same time frame last year, according to BPD. A major exception is homicides, which has increased from 23 last year (through July 26) to 32 so far in 2020.

Police, Courts & Fire

Two dead in Sunday shootings – Two men were fatally shot minutes apart in Dorchester early Sunday morning, the first shortly before 2 a.m. at 38 Erie St., according to Boston Police, who report that the victim — Sarbryon Loving, 39—was rushed to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Minutes later, a second man—later named as Amadou Jalloh, 28—was shot at Sumner and Conrad streets, about a mile and a half away. Somebody brought him to hospital, where he was declared dead, police say.

Anybody with information on either shooting can contact detectives at 617-343-4470 or the anonymous tip line: 800-494-TIPS or by texting TIP to CRIME (27463).

Suspect in Fields Corner murder captured - Boston Police report the arrest of a suspect for the stabbing murder of Onell Colon at the Domino's on Adams Street in Fields Corner late on July 3. Police say detectives tracked Anthony Nicholes, 50, of Dorchester, to Long Beach, CA, where they and Long Beach officers arrested him on Friday. Nicholes faces extradition to Boston to face arraignment on a murder charge.

Man killed in Jet Ski accident off Malibu Beach - State Police report that Curtis Raper, 43, of Dorchester, died Sunday around 4:30 p.m. after crashing a Jet Ski into "a sailboat that was stationary and attached to a mooring" around 4:30 p.m. State Police add that Raper was one of four men riding two Jet Skis in the water off Malibu Beach at the time. State Police say he was rushed to Boston Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead.

July 30, 2020

Boys & Girls Club News 17			
Opinion/Editorial/Letters 8			
Business Directory14			
Obituaries 18			
Days Remaining Until			
Labor Day39			
Labor Day39 First Day of Autumn54			
First Day of Autumn54			
First Day of Autumn54 Columbus Day74			

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four minutes, and then 3:15 a.m. The way the so far in 2020.

UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

NAACP Boston Freedom Weekend— The NAACP Boston will host a series of events this coming weekend, including a drive-in Soul Music concert on Friday, July 31 from 6-9 p.m. The concert is free but to maintain COVID-19 safety precautions, the number of vehicles is limited and attendees must remain in their vehicles. The location will be disclosed upon registration. Visit NAACPBoston.com to register.

On Sat., Aug. 1, the NAACP Boston, the City of Boston and BPS will sponsor a "Day of Action & Service" — both virtual and inperson— with opportunities in Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, JP and Hyde Park. Volunteers can help with phone-banking for Census and Voting awareness, neighborhood clean-ups and food banking.

NAACP National Convention— Boston was selected to host this year's NAACP convention, but it has been moved online due to COVID-19. It will take place virtually from Aug. 2-15. Go to NAACPBoston.com to view events and to register.

Paving project on Gallivan — MassDOT will be conducting paving operations along a section of Gallivan Boulevard (Route 203) from West Selden Street to Wilmington on Sat., Aug. 15, from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The work will require temporary lane closures with some temporary detours of adjoining side streets. Appropriate signage, law enforcement details, and advance message boards will be in place to guide drivers through the work area. MassDOT encourages drivers to seek alternate routes, reduce speed, and use caution while approaching and traveling through the work zone. All scheduled work is weather dependent and may be impacted due to an emergency.

Expansion of City Hall in-person services – Starting the week of July 23, Boston City Hall will be open to the public on Thursdays: bringing in-person services to 3 days a week, on a Tuesday, Thursday, Friday schedule. Services will remain by appointment, so people must call ahead to the relevant department. A good start-

ing place is by calling 311. The City will continue to screen everyone who enters the building for COVID-19 symptoms and elevated temperature.

'Virtual' meeting on proposed Freeport Street pot shop— A virtual community meeting for a proposed Marijuana Establishment at 43 Freeport St. will be held on, Thurs., July 30 at 6:30 p.m. The proponent, Brian Chavez of Erba C3 Dorchester LLC, plans an adult use cannabis retail store at the location. If you would like to attend the meeting online, please use the Zoom video conference at https://us02web.zoom. us/j/87627483609. If you would like to call in to the meeting, call 1-888-475-4499 and enter the meeting ID, 876 2748 3609, when prompted.

12th Suffolk candidates meet in virtual forum— Greater Mattapan Neighborhood Council (GMNC) plans to host a virtual Town Hall featuring the candidates for the 12th Suffolk House district on Sat., Aug. 1 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. See g-mnc.org for more information.

The Mattapan-based Urban Farming Institute has announced two fundraising initiatives to help them continue their mission "to develop and promote urban farming." Go to urbanfarminginstitute.org to register and donate. UFI is sponsoring a "Ride for Food" bike ride event through Oct. 4.

More Outdoor Dining with Food Truck—The city's Food Truck program has been expanded to 23 locations this summer, including three in Dorchester: Hemenway Park, Thursdays from noon-7 p.m. featuring Northeast of the Border; Roberts Playground on Mondays, noon-7 p.m., Northeast of the Border; and Malibu Beach in Savin Hill, Mondays and Thursdays, noon-7 p.m., Sufra.

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Beacon Hill lawmakers at work on draft of final policing bill

By Katie Lannan State House News Service

Three senators who helped craft their branch's policing bill will join the Judiciary Committee's House chair, the head of the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus, and a former state trooper on a conference committee that will try to reach a House-Senate compromise on police reform.

Each branch named its negotiators on Monday. On the Senate side, it's Democrats Sen. William Brownsberger of Belmont and Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz of Jamaica Plain, and Minority Leader Bruce Tarr, a Gloucester Republican.

The House appointed Rep. Claire Cronin, an Easton Democrat who as co-chair of the Judiciary Committee led the House's effort to compile its bill; Springfield Democrat Rep. Carlos Gonzalez, who chairs the Black and Latino Legislative Caucus, and Rep. Timothy Whelan, a Brewster Republican who voted against the bill.

Chang-Diaz, the sole member of the Black and Latino Caucus in the Senate, and Brownsberger chaired the working group that developed the Senate's bill. Tarr was the only Republican on that panel.

Brownsberger and Cronin played leading roles in negotiations on a criminal justice reform package. Those talks lasted for 113 days. The police reform conferees have a much tighter timeline. Friday marks the last day of formal legislative sessions for the two-year term, though there is a possibility that lawmakers could agree to work beyond that deadline because of the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Protests across Massachusetts and the country in response to police killings of unarmed Black Americans, including George Floyd in Minneapolis, catapulted the issues of law enforcement accountability and racial justice onto Beacon Hill's agenda.

The Black and Latino Caucus on June 2 put out a reform plan that included four state-level action items — creation of a certification and decertification system for law enforcement officers, establishment of clear and uniform limits on excessive force and a duty to intervene, a commission for comprehensive civil service review, and a commission on structural racism. In a statement Monday,

the caucus said all four of those ideas were included in the House bill.

"With this bill we take a step to rise above the fray of our shared dark past across the country and here in Massachusetts," Rep. Nika Elugardo, a member of the caucus and Boston Democrat, said before the House's final vote Friday.

"This bill is an important beginning not because the ink on this page is beautiful or comprehensive or complete or even entirely fair. This bill is a beginning because of how we came together to create it, not without flaws or lapses of judgment — I myself have gotten caught up in the tension more than once — but we brought this bill through the tears, the smears, the fears, we've exchanged lobs and jeers at one another. Through our individual issues with race, through our anger and our concerns, we found a way to share values.

Gov. Baker, House Speaker Robert DeLeo, and Senate President Karen Spilka have all said they want to see a policing bill completed by July 31, the day legislative rules set as the end of formal lawmaking business. Both versions of the police reform bills create new commissions that would certify police officers and de-certify those who have committed misconduct, though the structures differ. The House and Senate also diverged in their approaches to limiting qualified immunity that shields police officers from civil lawsuits.

As the six lawmakers seek to reach consensus, they'll be dealing with legislation that prompted a range of opinions, and some decisions made on votes

that were tighter than is often typical on Beacon Hill.

Whelan, a former State Police trooper, said the original version of the bill "had many holes in it" and that through the amendment process, representatives "installed more" holes than they'd filled. He said the bill "expanded by geometric proportions" beyond the "narrow focus" that law enforcement representatives had agreed to with the Black and Latino Caucus.

"We look at this bill

that we have here today, and it gravitated from those specific important points that we arrived at consensus on to now we have things included in here [that] diminish the due process rights of the union sisters and brothers assigned to those unions representing police officers," Whelan said. "It weakens their rights for arbitration. It clearly violates the constitutional double jeopardy protections. It significantly changes their working conditions without granting impact bargaining."



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'Roxbury Love' mural is bulldozed as new development gets underway

By Amelia Mason WBUR Reporter

Roxbury residents were shocked by the destruction of a beloved neighborhood mural last Thursday. The massive, black-and-white portrait of Nelson Mandela, bookended by the words "Roxbury Love" in block letters, stretched across a low building at the corner of Warren and Clifford streets.

Though it was commissioned by the city only six years ago, the mural was seen by many as a Boston landmark. It will be replaced by a mixed-use development.

"When I think of public art in Boston, I think of the Roxbury Love mural, first and foremost," said Roxbury resident Rachel Domond, who appeared in a Facebook video decrying the mural's destruction. "And the fact that it is being demolished is an example of cultural sites, specifically Black cultural sites, in Boston being completely eradicated, all for profit."

The mural, by street artists Richard "Deme5" Gomez and Thomas



The "Roxbury Love" mural on Warren Street in Roxbury before its demolition. Joe Difazio photo for WBUR



The site on Warren Street where the Roxbury Love mural formerly stood. $Robin\ Lubbock/WBUR\ photo$

"Kwest" Burns, was commissioned by the nonprofit Alliger Arts as part of the city's "Pop Up! Dudley Connections" program in 2014.

The image of Mandela pays homage to the South

African anti-apartheid leader's visit to Boston in 1990. The mural quickly earned an iconic status in the neighborhood, helping usher in an explosion of public art in a city once notorious for its hostility

to street art and graffiti. In 2017, the mural was at the center of a local controversy when Heineken appropriated the image in an ad campaign. The company apologized in response to public outcry.

Gomez, known by his street artist name Deme5, expressed regret at the mural's destruction. "On one hand, I knew it was impermanent," he wrote in an email. "But I think the motivation behind this particular piece is what has caused the sting of its demise. Who I created this mural for and how it was embraced by them. I'm proud to live here and am/was proud to have made a mark in the Roxbury community.' The demolition had

been in the works for a while. The nearly 55,000-square-foot plot at 280 Warren Street is being developed by Cruz Companies, a Black-owned real estate development and construction firm. Plans on the Boston Planning & Development Agency website describe the company's intention to construct "99 units of new family and elderly residential housing units, with 11,334 square feet of new commercial office space, a coffee shop and restaurant, and 102 parking spaces in a two-level garage."

A memorandum approving the project commits to coordinating with the Mayor's Office of Arts & Culture to replace the mural with "an object of public art" on or near the site.

In a statement, Cruz Development president and CEO John B. Cruz echoed this commitment. "I met and have had discussions with the original artist about replicating the artwork and incorporating elements of it into the building," said Cruz said, who also promised to give back to the community: "We are

committed to employing at least 75 percent workers of color and 75 businesses of color on this site. We are also bringing an additional 40 permanent employees to this site, which will be the new home to Cruz Companies."

Boston's chief of Arts and Culture Kara Elliott-Ortega said her office was aware the mural was slated for demolition, but did not know it would be happening on Thursday. She said talks with property owners about recommissioning the mural elsewhere had been put on hold when the pandemic hit in the spring.

"While the opportunity was missed to notify the public, Mr. Cruz on behalf of his company, Cruz Companies, the oldest and largest minority-owned construction company in Boston, has committed to work with the artists to recommission the mural at or near the existing site," she said in a statement.

The planned development went through a month-long public comment period in 2016, but the painting's destruction four years later took the neighborhood by surprise, stoking anxieties about gentrification and displacement in the historically Black neighborhood.

The mural was the focus of an anti-gentrification rally organized by Roxbury residents on Monday of this week at the site where the Boston landmark once stood.

This article was originally published by WBUR 90.9FM on July 24. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.



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The Dorchester Historical Society is always looking for photographs and high school yearbooks from Dorchester's past.

Due to the pandemic, the Society is closed to the public at this time.



William Clapp House, 195 Boston Street Lemuel Clap House, 199 Boston Street James Blake House, 735 Columbia Road

www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org

dotnews.com July 31, 2020 THE REPORTER Page 5

abod

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Dot has a role in 'Ole White Sugah Daddy,' a play now being developed for TV viewing

By JACQUINN SINCLAIR SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

Over the last four years, the actress, comedian, and writer Obehi Janice accidentally wrote a TV pilot. A play that she has been working on during that time, "Ole White Sugah Daddy," is now being adapted for television.

"I didn't know that I was writing a very TV-friendly piece of literature when I wrote the play," said Janice in an interview last week. It's too early for a premiere date, but her work is under development with Big Beach, an indie outfit that brought us last year's "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood," "The Farewell," and the

popular 2006 film "Little Miss Sunshine."

In "Ole White Sugah Daddy," Lynne Adesuwa Imafidon (Janice) is at a crossroads, struggling at work and in her personal life. The 32-year-old Nigerian American coder has developed a new anti-gentrification app called "Neighbor" - a combination of NextDoor, Facebook, and Citizen but can't secure investor funding.

The MIT grad is super smart and good at her job, but "her center is off," Janice said. Later, Imafidon encounters an angel investor, a white man who takes an interest in her. "The play takes off from there," said director and collaborator Caitlin

efit reading of the play was hosted by Aye-Defy last Friday.

The idea for "Ole White Sugah Daddy" was born out of Janice's experiences living in Boston and her interest in technology and gentrification. She was "dealing with so much subtle racism... these little tiny violences [that were happening], both verbally and physically," she explains.

In the play, Imafidon lives in Dorchester and works in Cambridge. The highlighting of Dorchester is part of the reason that Sullivan, a Dorchester native, is so excited about the piece. She was introduced to Janice a little over a year ago

Sullivan. A virtual ben- through a mutual friend who thought they might work well together. When Sullivan read the script with its mention of Franklin Park and Dot. Ave, she was thrilled that the play highlighted the Boston she grew up in.

Janice felt like she had hit a block as a theater actress, writer and comedian and she was wrestling with feeling both hyper-visible and invisible at the same time. She met women in the tech world who also grappled with racial isolation. These happenings, in tandem with deep research, helped shape the play, which is ultimately the playwright's "take on being a token personally and professionally," said Janice.

The Lowell native currently resides in East Los Angeles. Moving to L.A. was always a goal of hers, she said, but the way that it happened was unplanned.

"I was minding my business in Brooklyn and was hired to write for "Castle Rock" on Hulu. So that's what brought me out to Los Angeles," said Janice. She is looking forward to the TV adaptation because it allows her "to dig deeper into some other themes, like love, identity, impostor syndrome, and Boston as a feeling...an activated space ...a city that has deep history.

Sullivan, who now lives in New York, and Janice have developed a deep



Obehi Janice

kinship. They have been collaborating virtually for a while and a lot of the edits, Janice said, "have come from their weekly conversations."

She has been preparing for this moment for a long time. A voracious reader and researcher, she readily rattles off the names of Black directors, authors, and poets whose work she admires: Stella Meghie, Janicza Bravo, Brittney Cooper, adrienne maree brown, and Rita Dove. "Black women's output in art is extremely important to me," she said.

Janice is part of The Kilroys, a radical collective of diverse playwrights, directors, and producers in LA and NYC whose motto is "We Make Trouble and Plays." The group mobilizes others in the field and leverages their power to support one another.

For the last 10 years, Janice has been working in theater. She was part of the 2018-2019 **Emerging Writers Group** at The Public Theater, a Luminary Artist at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and a recipient of a TCG Fox Foundation Resident Actor Fellowship.

BE EMPOWERED.



Caitlin Sullivan

Her plays include "Selah," "African Tea" as well as the one-woman shows "Fufu & Oreos" and "Casanova." She is the voice of Heather Culbreth, a character on "Dicktown" on FXX's Cake.

Up next is a musical and "Obehi Janice: Casanova," a continuation of the "Casanova" piece she performed at the MFA in Boston in 2018.

Last week, though, Janice and the talented cast of "Ole White Sugah Daddy" were busy prepping for Friday evening's reading. "I consider [it] a really nice gem of a moment. I'm in between a development process that is affirming my love for the stage while also really growing my appreciation for the screen," she said.

Sullivan hopes that the reading "makes people hunger for a full production of it." The moment isn't as big as watching it onstage, but still, said Janice, "I think it's spe-

This article was first published by WBUR 90.9FM on July 24. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

UMass Boston's chancellor gives \$50,000 to new George Floyd Fund

Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, the new chancellor of UMass Boston, will begin his tenure at the Dorchester campus this Saturday, but he is already making news with a generous personal donation to fund a new scholarship in the name of George Floyd, who was killed by police in Minneapolis on May 25.

Suárez-Orozco and his wife, Carola, have pledged \$50,000 of their own money to endow the fund. As of Monday, the fund exceeds \$100,000 in commitments with other pledges made by



Marcelo Suárez-Orozco

UMass President Marty Meehan (\$10,000), the UMass Foundation (\$10,000), and \$50,000 from Jean Rhodes, the Frank L. Boyden Professor in the Department of Psychology at UMass Boston.

Suárez-Orozco called the fund an investment "in future leaders who will fight for social, political, and economic justice, drawing from their lived experience and using the tools forged in our classrooms."

Suárez-Orozco was elected in February by the UMass Board of Trustees, becoming the first Hispanic and ninth permanent chancellor of UMass Boston. He has most recently worked as a dean at the University of California in Berkeley.

-REPORTER STAFF

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Enjoy 'A Lantern Experience' at the Zoo starting Aug. 21

Later this summer, visitors to Franklin Park Zoo will enjoy a memorable evening experience with hundreds of luminous, beautifully crafted large-scale lanterns. When "Boston Lights: A Lantern Experience," presented by National Grid, debuts on Aug. 21, it will be the first of its kind in New England.

"We are thrilled to bring this unique experience to Franklin Park Zoo inspired by the beauty of the natural world, incredible wildlife and rich cultural traditions. We look forward to welcoming visitors of all ages as they immerse themselves in the beauty of the lights," said John Linehan, Zoo New England President and CEO.

Spanning the 72 acres of Franklin Park Zoo, Boston Lights will impress visitors of all ages with more than



This dragon is almost 63 yards long.

50 large scale displays made up of hundreds of colorful lanterns. Featuring stunning, dramatic entrance arches, a walk-through 66-foot-long shark tunnel, a 26-foot-tall giant panda, a 197-footlong dragon, whimsical ocean scenes, vibrant flowers, traditional

Asian lantern scenes and much more, the whole experience is sure to dazzle and delight.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for visitors to enjoy the Franklin Park Zoo and all it has to offer," said Marcy Reed, President, National Grid, Massachusetts. "The zoo's programs and exhibits enhance our quality of life and we are pleased to do our part on behalf of the customers and communities we

Boston Lights will also shine a light on the importance of conserving the incredible biodiversity on our planet. From snow leopards to Panamanian golden frogs to the local Blanding's turtles, each species plays a role in healthy ecosystems.

Visitors to Boston Lights will have the opportunity to learn more about our commitment to conservation and ways that they can participate in wildlife and habitat preservation. All of the lanterns are illuminated with energy saving LED lights.

The same health and safety measures in place for a daytime visit to the zoo are also in place for Boston Lights. These measures include

contributions to civic and

The Frederick E. Berry

Institute for Politics and

Civic Engagement hon-

ors the legacy of Sena-

tor Frederick E. Berry,

who throughout his life

championed civic en-

gagement, public ser-

vice, and democratic

participation. Recipients

are actively engaged in

a wide range of commu-

nity-based service both

on campus and in their

political engagement.

ticketing for a designated day and time, guest capacity limits, one-way paths to control guest flow, clearly designated 6-foot distance markers, enhanced cleaning protocols, and more hand sanitizer stations throughout the zoo. In accordance with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, visitors (over age 2) to the zoo are required to wear face coverings.

Boston Lights: A LanternExperienceatFranklin Park Zoo will open on August 21 and will be open nightly through Labor Day (Sept. 7), and Thursday-Sunday after Labor Day through November 1. The hours are 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. For the full schedule as well as ticket prices, visit zoonewengland.org.

Zoo New England has partnered with Tianyu Arts and Culture to bring this experience to Franklin Park Zoo.

Teens learn about money, earn stipends

The City of Boston Credit Union has partnered with Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) to bringvirtual financial literacy training into the homes of 400 teens across the city. A six-week program for 13- and 14-year-olds, BCYF "SuperTeens" provides high-quality service learning and leadership experiences throughout July and August.

The Credit Union is providing the resources for 400 students, led by 50 counselors, to participate in bi-weekly lessons to prepare them to build a strong foundation for their personal finances. An interactive game, Money Experience, allows users to create "themselves" within the game and make various life choices that apply to different stages of their lives. Each choice (e.g., Do you want to go to college? What kind of job are you looking for? Will you rent or buy a home?) affects the user's finances, budget, and quality of life in real-time and gives a more in-depth representation of how personal finance works.

"The full economic impacts of this pandemic still remain to be seen, but we know our young people are going to be making critical decisions about their futures in a time of unprecedented challenges," said City of Boston Credit Union President and CEO Daniel Waltz. "Now more than ever, it's critical that we are helping youth build a foundation of sound financial management principles, and we're thrilled to partner with BCYF to make it happen virtually this summer."

Each of the students receives a stipend if they successfully complete all of the required activities and meet attendance goals. For more information, visit CityofBostonCU.com.

Two Salem State students from Boston recently received civic engagement scholarships. Richeline "Richie" Cadet, of Mattapan, a dual major in criminal justice and political science and Toiell Washington, of Dorchester, a sociology major, earned the \$5,000 awards from the Center for Civic Engagement at Salem State University. They are 2 of 13 students to win the prize through

the Frederick E. Berry



Richeline "Richie" Cadet Toiell Washington Institute for Politics and Civic Engagement. Recipients include nine



undergraduates and four graduate students who have made outstanding

rette, Thang H. Le, and Karina

Nova. The Dorchester students

are: Melissa Alvarado, Ebony

K.Atwell, Raymond Chu,

Sophia Dorsainvil-Johnson,

Mohamed T. Elsamny, Nicole

Milos, Alex C. Mitchell, Phuong H. Nguyen, Victoria A. Nguyen, Alicia Pham, Amy K. Phan, Huy Q. Phan, Angela Tran, Minh H. Trinh, Emily T. Vu, Soyini L. Wilcox.

communities.

Sixteen Dorchester residents and three Mattapan residents were named to the Dean's List at Boston University for the spring semester. The Mattapan students are Cassandra R. Ber-

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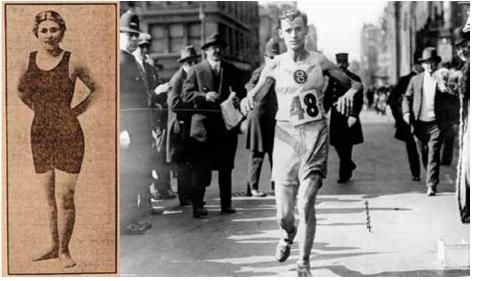
DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY Two sports stars of days gone by

With the delayed opening of a sports games on tap, we present thoughts of Dorchester sports stars of earlier years, Rose Pitonoff and Arthur Roth.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch, November 1910:

"Champion Swimmer Rose Pitonoff was a woman who made her achievement in the world of sport. When Annette Kellerman, the undisputed champion of the world at the time, attempted to reach Boston Light from Charlestown Bridge in Boston Harbor and failed, it was the universal opinion that no other feminine swimmer would ever again essay the trip.

"Three months ago,



however, a fair-haired, stocky, 15-year-old girl from Dorchester, Mass., contending against diverse conditions and treacherous tides, succeeded where Kellerman

and hundreds of ambitious and expert swimmers all over the world had failed. She established a new record and reached without dispute the much-prized goal

which has been fruitlessly sought for years. She can justly claim to be the greatest woman swimmer of the age." From the Boston Globe, Thurs., April 20, 1916:

"Arthur Roth the first in a field of 1,500 in the Bostonian to win the Boston Marathon. His time was 2:27:16 in 1916. His head tilted backward and lolling from side to side, running on his last ounce of strength, Roth of the Dorchester Club finished courageously, pugnaciously even, the tremendous task he had imposed upon himself 2h 27m 16 2-5s earlier and won the 20 annual B.A.A. Marathon run.

"The winner, who was born in Dorchester, lives at 331 Ruggles St., Roxbury. He is a tracer in an architect's office. His races in 1912 and 1913 were principally in 10-mile road races, although in the latter year, he finished 31st

New York Evening Mail modified Marathon race. "But Roth did more

than achieve Marathon honors for his native city. He dissolved the three-cornered tie for Marathon supremacy between New York, Canada, and New England. Until vesterday, each section had won six races apiece and one race had gone to a Westerner, Fritz Carlson of Minneapolis. Roth's win places this section of the country in the lead in point of Marathon winners.'

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchester historical society.org.

Editorial

Polls show Baker's strength, potential

There was a telling moment in Sunday's otherwise lackluster debate between Ed Markey and Joe Kennedy when a reporter asked the two rivals for the US Senate whether Charlie Baker should get another term in the next gubernatorial election in 2022.

Both men basically took a pass: That's up to the voters, said Kennedy. It's too far off to answer, Markey posited.

Perhaps the two congressional Democrats were afforded a sneak peek at the latest polling data from the estimable MassINC Polling Group, which has conducted a series of very useful surveys throughout the pandemic here in the Commonwealth.

This week, the folks at MassINC Polling published the results of two new polls conducted in recent days. The first, released Monday, shows that Baker continues to be the state's most popular political leader. According to this sample, 77 percent of Massachusetts residents have a favorable view of Baker. And a whopping 91 percent of Democrats "approve of how Baker has handled" the state's response to the COVID-19 outbreak, including "56 percent who strongly approve."

Polls have consistently shown that Baker, a Republican, is less popular with his fellow GOP voters, who give our current president higher favorable marks than Baker, 79-63, according to this most recent poll by MassInc. All told, however, 67 percent of Massachusetts residents hold Donald Trump in low regard, the poll shows.

The Dems' nominee, Joe Biden, holds a commanding lead in Massachusetts (55-23) over the incumbent in this poll. If this margin were to hold, as MassINC Polling Group notes, Biden can expect the largest margin of victory for a Democratic candidate for president since 1996, when Bill Clinton swamped Bob Dole here by 34 points.

On Tuesday, another poll conducted last week by MassINC and sponsored by the Barr Foundation reinforced what some of their earlier polls have shown: A large majority of Massachusetts residents — 67 percent— want "big changes" and investment into our state transportation system as we emerge from the COVID-19 crisis. An even bigger plurality— 69 percent of us— "strongly" or "somewhat" support "raising new money to invest in the system, "including roads, bridges, and public transportation."

More than half of those surveyed—55 percent—described the condition of public transportation in the state as either "fair" (34 percent) or "poor" (21 percent). Most of those asked (48 percent) blame transportation agencies—the MBTA and MassDOT—for the condition, with Gov. Baker getting heat as "most responsible" from 15 percent, just a bit less than state lawmakers, 19 percent.

Another interesting take-away from the poll: Most people surveyed agree that low-income residents should get "a discount on public transportation"— a broad characterization of various policy reforms that have been advanced recently by Democrats like Rep. Ayanna Pressley, Sen. Markey and Councillor Michelle Wu. A big majority—71 percent—say that they either "strongly" or "somewhat" agree with that idea.

As Massachusetts and the nation continue to grapple with the ongoing disruptions of the health emergency, many of us are expecting to mainly stay off the roads for the foreseeable future. The MassINC/Barr poll this week found that "68 percent of employed voters say they would prefer to work from home at least a few days a week as the state reopens." Those with school-aged kids at home are particularly likely to be housebound themselves with an uncertain academic calendar in the fall.

All of this, including public opinion, is subject to change, of course. But it's a help for all of us — in particular, policymakers and politicians— to tune into MassINC's ongoing surveys. — Bill Forry

The Reporter

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Off the Bench

Getting to 'perfect' defies history's stories; let's aim at getting to 'better' day after day

By James W. Dolan Reporter Columnist

One of the few advantages of growing old is a broader perspective. Looking back, one can view life from a prominent outcrop that reveals the treacherous mountains, dark forests, broad meadows, and pleasant valleys marking the journey. Some are obstacles to overcome and others restful interludes as the road unwinds.



James W. Dolan

The study of history provides enlightenment and perspective well beyond normal daily experiences. It is the study of humanity within the context of the forces that influenced those living at a time and within a culture often far different from what we experienced. It identifies the commonality, diversity, success, and failures of mankind, not in the ab-

stract but within the harsh realities of each generation's time on earth.

Religious, cultural, economic, political, and social pressures shape each generation and over time evolve, sometimes peacefully but more often violently as the tectonic plates that undergird societies grind, one against the other. Conflict remains one of the more pervasive forces in human history.

Christianity was an aberration. It promoted peace, compassion, forgiveness, understanding, humility, and love as an alternative to conflict. Yet under its banner, wars were fought and multitudes killed, subjugated, or enslaved. Mankind's capacity to reconcile opposites such as freedom and equality with discrimination and servitude is obvious. Yesterday's heroes like Washington, Jefferson and others are today castigated as hypocrites.

How could they preach the nobility of human freedom and equality while owning slaves? As flawed human beings in the context of their time, they refused to see the obscene injustice of viewing slaves as property. It is understandable that descendants of those slaves find no mitigation in what was then the prevailing attitude in the South, which for centuries

tolerated its "peculiar institution," the vestiges of which regrettably remain to this day.

History is filled with examples of human folly. Even our noble ventures have often proved to be mistakes. I have now lived during the terms of 13 presidents and almost too many wars to count, only two of which I view as justifiable and necessary, World War II and Korea. The first because we were attacked by Japan and then Hitler then declared war on us. In Korea, we were able to prevent the communist North from overrunning the South. Considering what has happened since, I believe our intervention was justified. Vietnam and Iraq are two wars that could, and should, have been avoided.

History is the backdrop, the stage upon which life unfolds. We tend to focus only on the actors and too often overlook the set. It is important to view the drama as the interaction between actors within the framework of the stage upon which they perform. True understanding requires insight into the complex, underlying structure of the times in which people lived their lives.

To paraphrase Dr. Martin Luther King: The arc of history bends ever so slowly toward justice. The founding fathers, despite their now obvious imperfections, did help to bend that arc as did Harry Truman by integrating the services in 1948 and as did Lyndon Johnson, a southerner, by engineering the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1965, thereby illuminating the path ever so dimly for Dr. King and the recently deceased John Lewis, among others, to carry on the struggle to expose injustice and achieve the elusive declaration: "All men are created equal."

We cannot allow the "perfect to be the enemy of the good." History teaches us "perfect"

is unattainable. Nonetheless, we must continue to strive for what's "better."

Follow history's bending arc As it points to truth and justice In a world of equivocation It may never be fully achieved The path is strewn with obstacles That must be overcome.

James W. Dolan is a retired Dorchester District Court judge who now practices law.

Dorchester deserves its share of cannabis revenue reinvestment

By Kevin Gilnack Special to the Reporter

When we wrote Question 4 to legalize and regulate the sale of cannabis in Mass., the drafting committee intentionally included provisions to support local entrepreneurs and invest in communities ravaged by systemic racism.

To the Legislature's credit, its members upheld that goal when they rewrote the law, dedicating funding (subject to appropriation) to five priorities, including "restorative justice, jail diversion, [and] workforce development" programs and services to help "persons in communities disproportionately impacted by high rates of arrest and incarceration for marijuana offenses" participate in this new industry.

Four years later, the Legislature has yet to appropriate any funds to those programs, choosing instead to invest \$45.6 million to "cut in half its general fund allocation" to the state's Bureau of Substance Addiction Services.

The Boston Globe recently reported that "across Massachusetts, marijuana companies complain that local officials frequently require (or pressure) them to spend large sums on [police] traffic details that are unnecessary, intimidating, or both." Despite the windfall that police departments are receiving from unregulated host community agreements (the contracts between municipalities and dispensary applicants needed to move forward in the approval process), the recent House police reform bill would direct some cannabis revenues to police training. Dorchester is lucky to have a champion like Rep. Liz Miranda, who was a vocal leader for equity funding during this debate.

The impact of this lack of investment is telling: After the issuance of more than 70 marijuana establishment licenses to equity, economic empowerment, and disadvantaged business enterprises, only three have been able to open so far. Only one of those three — Pure Oasis — is Black-owned and I'm proud that they are a part of our community.

With a significant budget shortfall anticipated

as a result of COVID-19, the pressure will be even greater for legislators to turn to cannabis revenues intended for communities like Dorchester to fill the gaps

As the state works to balance its budget and foster economic recovery, it should immediately act on legislation filed by Sen. Jason Lewis as well as Reps. Dave Rogers and Chynah Tyler to enable the Cannabis Control Commission to use non-tax revenue from fines and donations to support equity.

But that alone is not enough. Dorchester is fortunate to have leaders like state Sen. Nick Collins and Reps. Dan Cullinane and Dan Hunt who helped sponsor a bill to create a cannabis equity loan fund for local entrepreneurs, who were once criminalized, to participate in the industry. That bill was reported favorably out of committee and must be enacted to spur true investment back into communities.

To truly create equitable participation in the cannabis industry and drive the real restorative justice and community reinvestment promised by cannabis legalization, the Legislature must commit itself to dedicating at least 20 percent of excess cannabis revenue back into communities as envisioned by the law.

Unfortunately, there aren't currently the same kinds of resources behind implementing the equity provisions of the law as there were to passing the ballot question. I urge anyone who cares about equitable economic development to make their voices heard to their elected leaders by thanking our Dorchester leaders like Sen. Collins and Reps. Cullinane, Hunt, and Miranda -- and encouraging others to join this effort.

To learn more, visit masseon.com.

Kevin Gilnack lives in the Savin Hill neighborhood of Dorchester and is a nonprofit public affairs consultant specializing in human services, social justice, and equity. He served as executive director of the Commonwealth Dispensary Association during the 2016 Question 4 campaign and was a member of the ballot question drafting committee.

Kennedy doesn't 'walk the walk' with progressives

Joe Kennedy's recent tax disclosures and financial statement indicate he "talks the talk but doesn't walk the walk." We are troubled by a clear pattern by the Congressman to say one thing and do another. While TV ads portray him as a "progressive", a "man of the people" taking on a "failed system," his financials tell a different story.

Letter to the Editor

During this campaign, Kennedy has touted his work on the opioid epi-

demic and used Congressional hearings to drill Big Pharma executives, while records show he has been deeply invested in stocks for Pfizer, Merck, Eli Lily, Proctor & Gamble, Johnson and Johnson, and other large pharmaceutical companies. (See FEC filing)

During this campaign, he has touted his support for the Green New Deal, authored by US Sen. Ed Markey and Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, but he waited until May of 2020 to divest his holdings in Exxon Mobil and Chevron, reaping substantial profits. He continues to have substantial other investments in the fossil fuel industry.

(See FEC filing)

During this campaign, Kennedy has touted his efforts to reform our political process, while accepting large sums from hedge fund executives, and then opposing the Tax Fairness Act on carried interest which would require wealthy financiers to pay their fair share. He is the third largest recipient of hedge fund dollars. Markey was an original sponsor of the Tax Fairness bill in 2015 and Kennedy has declined to cosponsor the legislation. (See Center for Responsive Politics)

While families struggle to meet rent and mortgage payments during the pandemic, Congressman Kennedy's tax filing show he receives \$100,000 annually from a family trust, much of it from fossil fuels and Big Pharma. While he claims he has no control of a family trust, he is the beneficiary. Three years ago, he purchased a \$3.5 million home in an exclusive Newton neighborhood. (See 2018 tax filing).

During this campaign, Congressman Kennedy marched for racial equity and called for fresh faces and fresh ideas. But just two years ago, when Ayanna Pressley challenged an incumbent to be the

first African American woman in our Congressional delegation, Kennedy was with the incumbent.

As for fresh ideas, Kennedy has been in Congress for eight years...and we're still waiting. He complains about the failed politics of the past 50 years. Who is he speaking about? Ted Kennedy was in Washington for 47 years, Patrick Kennedy for 16 years, Joe Kennedy II for 12 years, and Joe Kennedy III for 8 years. They were our leaders for the past 50 years, and we respected them all.

We support US Sen. Ed Markey because for decades he has consistently fought climate change and to protect the environment. He has consistently fought for healthcare for all. He has consistently fought for fairness and access to the internet. He has not merely been a progressive vote. He has been a progressive leader. He has not merely raised these issues during a political campaign, he has quietly done the hard work in the trenches over many years.

Scott Gilman is an environmental activist with Sunrise Boston. Shannon Jackson worked on the Bernie Sanders presidential campaign.

A primer on voting options for the September primary

By WILDER FLEMING AND LISA CREAMER WBUR STAFF

There are now more ways to cast a ballot in Massachusetts than ever before. Thanks to a new voting law spurred by the coronavirus pandemic, voters in the 2020 state primary and the November general election may now vote by mail. In another first for Massachusetts voters, early voting will also be allowed for the primary election — not just the general election — at certain polling locations. And of course, old-fashioned in-person voting won't be stopped by the virus on either day.

Here's a guide sheet for voters for the Sept. 1 primary: How to vote by mail - Under the new law, Secretary of the Commonwealth Bill Galvin was mandated to send out ballot applications to all 4.5 million eligible registered voters in the state by July 15. As of Wed., July 22, Galvin's office said it had sent out all vote-bymail ballot applications. A spokeswoman noted that all registered voters should have received their ballot applications by last Friday.

Requesting A Vote-By-Mail Ballot – Registered voters must ensure that completed applications reach their local election offices by no later than Aug. 26 -

via post or drop-off. A postmarked date won't count if it arrives later. And, Galvin's office notes, because mail can "take up to a week to be delivered in one direction,' voters should really plan to apply for a ballot with a two- to three-week buffer.

If you didn't get a ballot application, it is likely because you haven't yet registered to vote. You can check your voter registration status here: sec.state.ma.us/ovr/. You can register online, by mail, or at City Hall. The registration deadline for the 2020 primary is Aug. 22.

Unenrolled? Select A Party-Unenrolled — or what many refer to as "independent" - voters must check a box on the vote-by-mail applications indicating whether they want a Democratic or Republican primary ballot. It's essentially the same process at the polls; voters can only cast ballots in one party's primary.

Delivering Your Mail-In Ballot - Once your application is approved, the state will mail an election ballot to your address. You then must get that ballot to local election officials by no later than 8 p.m. on Sept. 1. When you get your ballot in the mail, it will come with an envelope to send it back, postage prepaid by the government. Mailed primary ballots received after Sept. 1 will *not* be counted.

"They have to be received by the day of the election. It's no good simply postmarking the date of the election," Galvin told WBUR.

Ballots also can be dropped off at a polling station or designated drop-box location or mailed to your local election office. Election offices include city or town clerks and local election commissions.

Tracking Your Vote-By-Mail Ballot - Voters who send in their vote-by-mail ballots can use the state's portal to track their ballots.

Just keep in mind that if your election office accepted your ballot, you cannot vote again.

Voting early, in person - Early in-person voting for the state primary runs from Sat., Aug. 22, until Fri., Aug. 28. On these dates, voters can visit specific local polling stations in person to cast their ballots. The state's website states that a list of early voting dates, times, and locations for each community will be posted at least one week before early voting begins.

Finally, voters may still cast their primary ballots at the polls on Election Day, Sept. 1.

This article was first published by WBUR 90.9 FM on July 24. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.



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	2 persons	3 persons
)	\$95,200	\$107,100

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In Fields Corner, a refuge for teens renews its mission in a time of strains



(l-r) DYC kids Joshua, Garvey, Lawrence, and Diamani beat the heat on Monday with a game of 2K inside the organization's Dorchester Ave space. Daniel Sheehan photo

to be a gang member, nobody starts out wanting to be afraid that somebody's going to shoot them...our part of it is prevention and diversion. If we can get kids from families that have relatives, brothers, or cousins who are gang members, we can keep them out of gangs." That's the mission at the Collaborative, a mission made even more difficult by a pandemic that closed the center for weeks, leaving teens who typically head to their Fields Corner space with no place to turn. Safe City Academy, the organization's workforce development program for kids 15-22, was back up and running three weeks after the shutdown began in March with a pivot to a food distribution program in which older DYC workers delivered 14,000 pounds of food to Catholic Charities food pantries throughout the metro area using a rented tractor trailer truck. "It was really an opportunity for them to be heroic," said Folgert. "People were depending

But for the younger kids in the program, there weren't tions. The center went remote, checking in with kids virtually, helping them keep up with any online classwork, and purchasing gaming systems and sports video games for many of the kids. "We spent years getting them off video games and then immediately put them back on them," Folgert noted with a chuckle. The effort to keep kids engaged and inside was expensive, but largely successful. Since July 13, a group of 25 younger kids and 7 staff members has resumed their basketball and track programs at Town Field. Still, life in limbo during the pandemic, especially during the early

on these young people."

(Continued from page 1) summer months, was troubling, said Folgert. "Everything we use to prevent young people from getting involved in that disappeared. What do we use to keep people from getting into violent lifestyles and joining gangs? The centers they were all closed. Jobs? They were all shuttered," he said. "All of our tools were gone, vet the violence was continuing. Now we're starting to load those diversion programs back in. But it definitely was a terrifying period to have violence continue and not have the tools that work to prevent it." The kids in the organization are no strangers to that violence; the deeply personal link to Sunday's shooting fatality proves as much. But many of them have come to appreciate DYC as a second family. "Emmett's like a dad to me," said Garvey, a 7th grader at the Mc-Cormack School. "He helps my family. Like on Thanksgiving he brought food for every family. He's taken us to college football and baseball games." Diamani, 14, described the mentors at DYC as "people who I trust, who

I can talk to about most stuff. They make me feel welcome here." He explained how he was involved in a "cyph" -a small gang-like cell — before Emmett "convinced me to stop doing all that stuff, to do my own thing, and worry about myself. And there's like no kids really in cyphs now. Emmett and his staff here are the reason for that." Lawrence, another 14-year-old, said spending his time at DYC has helped him develop as a person. "Personality wise, I used to be very hyper. It's helped me calm down, so like, I know when to play and when not to." In recent weeks, Lawrence, a budding cross country runner, said he's enjoyed taking on the role of basketball and track coach and working with younger kids in the program. Even at a relatively young age, he's already setting examples for his peers.

"I've never been in a gang personally," he said, "but I used to hang around a lot of people who were in gangs. A couple of my friends were getting jumped and getting into different stuff, and I told them if you hang with me, come to

DYC, it could change your life."

Lawrence's life now, he said, is decisively better. "Before I started coming here, I would never leave the house. I'd just go to school and then come home and play video games. But now I come here after basketball practice, do homework, get some pizza or something, and hang out here until around 8:30." COVID-19 has strained the organization's resources, which have been dwindling in recent years. Because of a need to hire more staff and acquire ample PPE, the pandemic "makes everything more expensive," said Folgert.

An injection of support could help the organization acquire priceless assets: a new van to safely drop kids off at their front doors; an expansion of the workforce development program at the Kenny School. Closer collaboration with other agencies could help, too.

Folgert pointed to a recent RICO drug trafficking bust in the Bowdoin/ Geneva area that took 20 gang members off the streets as another opportunity to make inroads. "We don't know when these busts are going to

Joshua, 11, hoisted a shot while sporting an official DYC t-shirt. Photo courtesy DYC

happen, but once they happen, that's a golden opportunity to have a bunch of us prevention and diversion people at the ready to go into those neighborhoods and flood them with positive alternatives." A new round of funding from Boston After School and Beyond that will send \$500,000 in grants to 34 local programs will make a small dent in DYC's obligations. But other sources of funding that kept the organization afloat in the '90s and '00s have dried up.

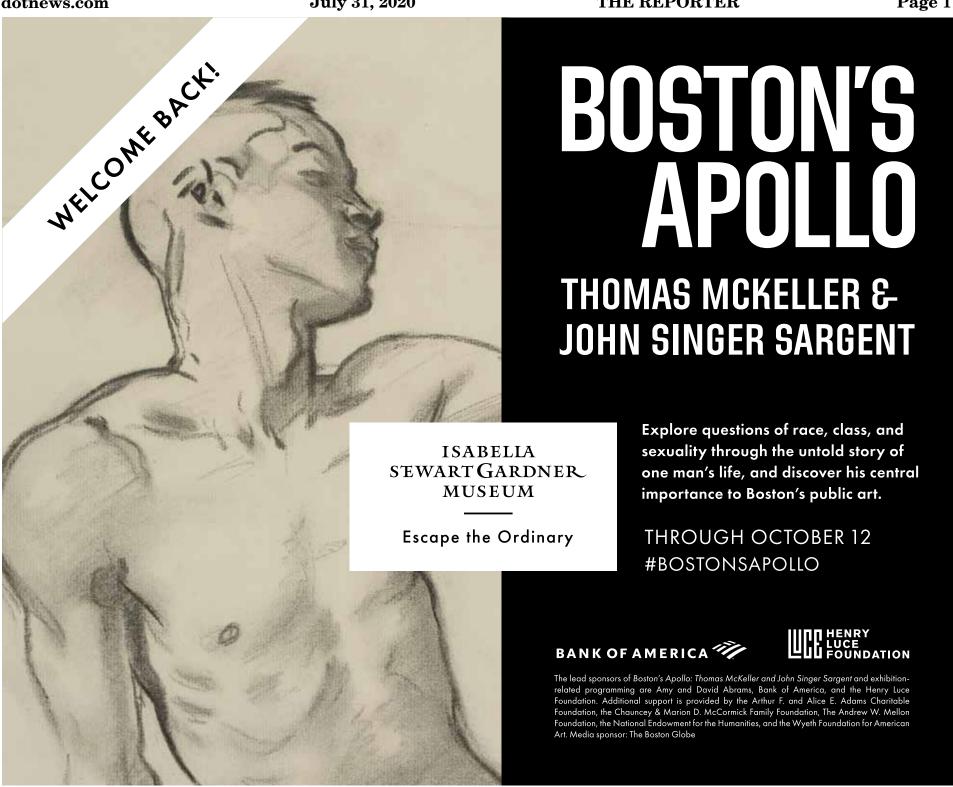
"We don't get any [federal money] right now. Our funding streams are mostly charitable donations...We really could use more donations. It's a time that people can step up and support these kids.' For now, seeing smiles on the basketball court is a small victory for kids who saw their sports seasons and summer camps cancelled and their lives upturned. "I've been doing this for over 30 years, and I've never seen a generation lose so much,' said Folgert. "It's a really significant loss that these kids are experiencing, and to be able to put some programs back up is just thrilling, and they really appreciate it."

With the uncertainty of school re-openings looming in the near future, however, the challenge of keeping kids safe will persist. Folgert knows that the stakes of the pandemic, like the stakes of his lifelong work, are those of life and death. "They're never going to forget how we treated them during this pandemic for the rest of their lives. They're never going to forget it, one way or the other."



This Dorchester-inspired graffiti artwork, created by former DYC member Justino Rivera, adorns a wall inside the headquarters and inspired the logo on the organization's t-shirts.

July 31, 2020 THE REPORTER Page 11 dotnews.com



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Brianna J. Robinson takes, and gives, delight as

a Black Gretel in Lyric Opera cast

By Daniel Sheehan ARTS & FEATURES EDITOR

Earlier this month, Boston Lyric Opera soprano singer Brianna J. Robinson appeared on the organization's podcast, "At its (s)Core," to discuss her experience as a Black vocalist in a traditionally whitemajority artform.

Originally from Ohio, Robinson recently became a Dorchester resident after moving to the neighborhood in late May. On the podcast, she recounted experiences of discrimination, but also expressed hope about a wave of change poised to sweep through the opera scene.

She expounded on those thoughts in an interview with the Re-

"The opera world is actually small in that a lot of people know each other." she explained. "So there was this fear that if I were to say something about these things that people were saying to me-even though they're wrong -that I could lose a job or not get a job... Nowadays, with my generation, there's just

a change that I'm seeing. I really do believe the pandemic has changed so much for our artform. It's allowed people to be at home, reading every story without the hustle and bustle of life to allow people to ignore things."

To Robinson, new rallying cries for accountability and transparency have reaffirmed her well-earned sense of place in opera.

"I feel very strongly that I belong in this artform. I believe that I was placed here for a reason. I worked really, really hard. And I think it is absurd that while this artform is excruciatingly difficult for anyone who wants to be a part of it, it is appalling that singers of color also have to deal with discrimina-

"We sit in front of panels and judges all the time that are critiquing us...As singers, we're sensitive about those things because people are telling us what they see and what they hear."

Robinson recounted how a judge once told her she was a wonderful singer, but she would



Soprano Brianna J. Robinson foresees change to the opera world, a space that historically has been predominantly white. Martin Dusek photo

never be cast in the role because she is Black.

In spite of these obstacles, last year Robinson earned the starring role of Gretel in the Engelbert Humperdinck opera Hansel and Gretel; it was a character she never believed she would portray on stage. The role became even more meaningful to her when she was invited to perform the piece and conduct a master class at Boston Arts Academy in Fields Corner in front

of hundreds of students of color.

"As they were applauding, I heard someone shout 'Yes, Black Gretel! You go, Black Gretel!' It was really beautiful for the kids to notice that and get to see a Black sopranosinging that role... it was really a blessing."

During a long and difficult period of isolation brought on by the pandemic, Robinson said she at first found it difficult to sing but eventually found comfort and healing in her art.

"Honestly, it was hard to sing, it was hard to turn to music in the first couple months of the pandemic...I did a lot of watching operas, watching people sing. Once I moved here to Dorchester, I was able to start getting back into singing and using it as a coping mechanism.'

Robinson added that she was grateful to have been offered a few virtual performance opportunities, including a project based on the civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer.

With the threat of the pandemic lingering around the country, the return date of in-person opera remains cloudy. But Robinson believes that when it does return, it will look different.

"Since the murder of George Floyd, a lot of people and organizations have been calling out things they see are wrong...I know there's going to be a change."

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'Hybrid' model seems most likely for BPS re-opening in fall

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

What can parents, students, and teachers expect when Boston Public Schools "return" in the fall? Completely remote, totally in-school, or a "hybrid" of those two approaches? The school department has until Friday (July 31) to submit its plan to state officials and a combined model looks to be the most likely path forward.

"Right now, we are looking at a hybrid model that would assign students into groups and bring them into schools on a rotating basis," Mayor Walsh said during a press conference on Tuesday while stressing that the plan remains in "draft" form.

"That's what we're looking at today, but no matter what model is

developed a plan for all remote as well if the cases go up before Sept. 10 or after that."

BPS superintendent Brenda Cassellius outlined the working plan last week during a School Committee meeting that lasted nearly six hours. She said that BPS has heard from about 30 percent of families and 55 percent of staff who offered input through an online survey.

"We've looked at the feedback we've received and many parents want their children back in school in some sort of capacity," she said. "We are going to continue to watch the virus and how this spread is happening and that will continue to inform what the decisions are moving forward. Everyone

chosen, BPS has fully is very anxious to have our children back but we certainly don't want to open our doors unless we know that we can do it safely."

Tammy Pust, senior adviser to Cassellius, said that if students are brought back into schools in any capacity in September, only one student would be allowed per row on any bus, food service would be held in the classrooms, schools would follow strict cleaning and sanitizing protocols and develop guidelines for how to respond when a student or staff member has an illness that needs to be evaluated.

"It's not really possible for us to open and have all of our students in our buildings on day one, because we can only put 50 percent of students on our buses," said Pust. The hybrid model seemed to be most popular among School Com-

mittee members, which would mean separating students into two groups, with each group in classrooms two days a week, and the buildings closed on a fifth day for deep cleaning.

At-Large City Councillor Annissa Essaibi-George, a former BPS teacher, said the combination model is the most likely outcome. "I think we all kind of recognize that there might come a time that we will potentially go remote again depending on what the next couple of months look like with COVID-19," Essaibi-George told the Reporter on Tuesday.

In a statement to the newspaper, Councillor Andrea Campbell said,

"My number one priority is the safety of our children, our families, and our educators. With September around the corner, our students. families, teachers, and staff need more specifics. Given the national COVID-19 landscape and many unanswered questions, I am deeply concerned about fully reopening in the Fall."

Essaibi-George also shared worries about the state of community input into BPS's reopening plans in a letter addressed to Cassellius and the School Committee last week.

"As we approach the coming school year, I would like to raise a number of major areas of concern for our school district. I recognize the tremendous effort taken to prepare for next year,



Brenda Cassellius: 'Hybrid' model one of three in 'working plan' due on Friday.

but the BPS community is still frustrated about the lack of communication, transparency, and opportunities for real input into our reopening plan beyond these late in the summer listening sessions," she wrote.

Boston should take the lead on testing students for virus

(Continued from page 1) way in which testing is done in the United States, and came up with an idea on how the US could get control of the virus more quickly. This could have a major impact on how children could return to school. He describes the research in a soon-to-be-published article written by a group from Harvard and the University of Colorado entitled "Test sensitivity is secondary to frequency and turnaround time for COVID-19 surveillance."

The standard test for COVID-19 is what is called a RT-PCR test, which costs about \$100 and measures whether there is coronavirus RNA in the bodily fluid sample. Coronavirus infection starts quickly, and grows exponentially in the body before trailing off over what can be a few weeks or even months. But scientists now know that transmissibility of the virus is related to the load of the virus, which decreases over a shorter period of time than initially thought. It is in the early period, during which time an infected person can be asymptomatic, that one is infectious.

The PCR test typically cannot be administered at home and takes 3-9 days to get results. It takes this long because it has a high degree of "sensitivity," which means that it can trace extremely low amounts of virus RNA. The problem is that by the time the results are known, most people with CO-VID-19, though still infected, have passed their infectious state and are left with fragments of RNA, not enough to cause transmission of the virus. Or, to put it another way, the current tests we are using are not solving our CÖVID transmission crisis.

Dr. Mina noted that the US has had earlier tests with less sensitivity, such as the Abbott ID Now Test, but they had low sensitivity, and so were not used much. But he stressed that the low sensitivity tests measure the period when the person is infectious.

"Maybe we only need a really crappy test ... if it's cheap enough to use it frequently, then it doesn't detect less than 5 percent of people when they're transmitting, it detects 85 people of people when they're transmitting," he said. "That's a huge win over what we have right now."

Beyond the advantage of low sensitivity tests being effective for measuring when a patient with COVID-19 is infectious, it is also extremely cost effective at \$1-2 per test, and can be done at home. The test is a piece of paper or cardboard painted with monoclonal antibodies, onto which you spit. Results are available in ten minutes. Yes, ten minutes. Think pregnancy home testing, except this is even cheaper and easier to use.

What does this mean for getting children back in school quicker?

Schools can provide parents with free home tests that determine on a daily basis whether or not a child has the virus and is contagious. At \$1-2 per test, it becomes very affordable to cities and towns, and if a child tests positive, he or she stays home; if not, it's off to school. Since the test

would be administered often, a missed reading would likely be picked up within a day or two. The immediacy of identifying those with the virus who are infectious could put the lid on transmission in school communities.

Boston needs to be the lead on this.

Beyond that, this idea has great potential across the country. The plan that public health officials put together in

the first unsure months of COVID-19 was to get control of the virus through social distancing, masks, and good hygiene to be followed by an enormous amount of testing that would allow our country to rapidly identify those with the virus so that they could be quarantined, and all their contacts could be traced to ensure that the virus had limited spread.

The cost of the test

seemed to be the major issue that prevented this from happening. Perhaps a new day has come.

Bill Walczak of Dorchester is the cofounder and former CEO of the Codman Square Health Center and was a candidate for mayor of Boston in 2013. His column appears weekly in the Reporter. Follow him on Twitter at @BillWalczak.



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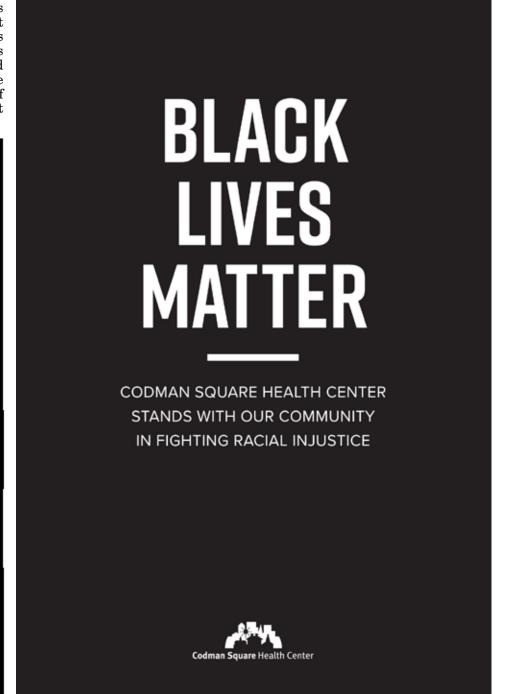
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'Mandatory' requirements set for travelers entering Massachusetts

By Chris Lisinski STATE HOUSE **News Service**

Almost all travelers entering Massachusetts, including permanent residents returning home and incoming college students, must comply with new mandatory quarantine or testing requirements starting

this on Saturday or face VID-19 test results that fines of up to \$500 per

Under Gov. Charlie Baker's new executive order effective Aug. 1, those arriving in Massachusetts will need to fill out a form summarizing their travel, then either self-isolate for 14 days or provide negative CO-

are at most 72 hours old.

The new travel restrictions Gov. Charlie Baker unveiled last week escalate his administration's response, replacing a months-old advisory for travelers to quarantine with a mandatory policy — which he once described as impossible

Latest plan for Mass Ave 'Better Bike' project is online

has launched a virtual open house that lays out full draft design plans for the Mass Ave Better Bike Project, an infrastructure initiative that would bring bike lanes to a stretch of Mass Ave. that has proven to be dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians over the vears.

The virtual open house presentation, now accessible at boston.gov, compiles community feedback and survey results taken from open houses held over the last several months and presents preliminary plans for a two-way protected lane for people biking on the west side of Mas-



A mock-up shows what a two-way protected bike lane on Mass. Ave. would look like.

sachusetts Avenue.

It also includes new crosswalks and improvements to pedestrian curb ramps, changes to intersections to improve safety and keep vehicle traffic moving, and changes to bus stops, including a new pair of bus stops that are much closer to the Stop & Shop driveway at South Bay Center.

The virtual presentation also offers mock-ups of what the new road layout would look like, as well as models of turning lane changes that would be made to the intersections between Melnea Cass Boulevard and Columbia Road.

A feedback form is available to fill out at the end of the virtual open house. Currently, the project is funded to begin construction in 2021.

Go to boston.gov/departments/transportation/mass-ave-betterbike-project to view the project page.

-DANIELSHEEHAN

penalties. Local public health agencies will have the power to issue penalties of up to \$500 per day, and anyone who is concerned about a potential violation can

notify authorities.

— that carries concrete

However, Baker told reporters that the new restrictions will largely play out on an "honor system." If public officials and the lodging industry clearly communicate the policy, he said, the "vast majority of people will play by the rules.

"The honor system in Massachusetts has worked pretty well," Baker said, later adding, "We're not going to be stopping cars, but we're going to expect people to comply."

Travel from states considered low-risk defined as having a daily case rate of less than six people per 100,000 and a positive test rate below 5 percent, each on a rolling seven-day average will be exempt from the quarantine or test policies.

As of Friday, eight states are on that list: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Hawaii. Officials said it will be updated regularly.

Most other trips will be subject to the new rules, regardless of whether the individual or group is visiting Massachusetts or returning to the Bay State following travel elsewhere. Those passing through Massachusetts will not need to quarantine, nor will commuters heading to work or school, patients traveling for medical treatment, and workers

on "critical infrastructure services."

Anvone entering the state will need to complete an online Massachusetts Travel Form, signed under penalties of law, providing contact information, travel details, intention to abide by social distancing and mask-use requirements, and whether they plan to quarantine or have instead tested negative for the highly infectious

Like many other states in the Northeast, Massachusetts has made considerable progress in slowing the spread of COVID-19 after hitting a peak earlier in the spring. The positive test rate has hovered below 2 percent for several weeks, and the number of patients hospitalized has dropped more than 85 percent from mid-April.

Baker said the decision to impose new restrictions was driven by three factors: a significant increase in travel and public activity, surging infection numbers in other states, and the impending arrival – albeit in smaller numbers than usual – of college students ready for the fall semester, some of whom will come from hotspot locations.

"There are many parts of the United States that have seen a very significant increase in both their positive test rates and their test positive test rates per capita over the course of the past 30 to 60 days," said Baker, "which has really changed the game, in many respects, with the way we think about the relative risk associated with out-of-state travel into Massachusetts.

Signs of an uptick in activity are apparent. In March, traffic on major Massachusetts highways dropped between 30 percent and 50 percent of last year's volume, but by early July, they had rebounded to only 10 to 15 percent lower than last year, according to Transportation Secretary Stephanie Pollack.

Trips through Logan International Airport remain "well below" 2019 comparisons, Pollack said, but those, too, have steadily increased from roughly 3,300 daily passengers in May to more than 12,000 per day in July.

"Massachusetts residents are increasingly headed out to other states, and travelers from other states are increasingly coming to Massachusetts," Pollack said. "All such travelers have a responsibility to help the Commonwealth keep transmission levels as low as possible."

The administration also released new guidelines for businesses on Friday to complement the travel policy. Employers should avoid business trips to anywhere besides the exempt states, and they should encourage employees whenever possible to avoid vacationing in high-risk areas.

"Lodging operators like hotels and Airbnb will be required to inform guests about this order at the time of booking and arrival, and are encouraged to communicate this information on their websites and on site with limited exceptions," said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito.

Since late March, anyone visiting Massachusetts has been advised to self-quarantine for 14 days, but that suggestion never carried a firm enforcement mechanism. Other states, including several Massachusetts neighbors, have had formal threats of fines in place for weeks.

In late June, governors in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut announced a joint policy of mandatory quarantines after travel to the tri-state area, with New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo saying at the time those who do not comply could be subject to fines.

At the time, Baker said his fellow governors "can't mandate" a firm self-isolation order because "it's not constitutional.'



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No 'winding down' of virus, says Walsh; a rise in state cases spurs travel cautions

(Continued from page 1)

Monday's report from the Department of Public Health also showed that the number of people hospitalized with COVID dropped by 14 to 350 as of midday Monday. In late April, there were more than 10 times that number hospitalized in Massachusetts with the respiratory disease.

Still, there were nearly 500 new cases confirmed in Massachusetts over the weekend and the percentage of tests that are coming back positive is rising. The number of daily new cases, which had settled at fewer than 200 a day earlier in the month, has been above 200 each of the last four days.

"I'm going to repeat what we've been repeating," Walsh said. "People need to socially distance, avoid large crowds, in-person gatherings or parties... Also we're asking that people avoid being outside during the heat wave."

The mayor urged Bostonians to refrain from hosting in-person birthday parties or cookouts. "Be very careful, you don't want to see outbreaks of COVID in your yards or in city parks; that's another reason why we are not going to be having parades in the city in the summer or the fall.'

"It amazes me that there are some elected officials in the country that are still refusing to wear a face mask and talk about the importance of them," Walsh said. "In Boston, when we reopen it doesn't mean we are relaxing any of the precautions we have in place. We don't want to start going backwards."

Citing four consecutive days of national COVID-19 death totals above 1,000, he also talked about his concerns about thousands of students who will be flocking to Boston area colleges next month from other parts of the country. He said he is in frequent contact with college and university officials about precautions they are taking, including safe housing options that involve the use of hotels.

Universities need to reach out to neighborhoods that may be affected by student housing changes, said the mayor, who plans to meet this week with college presidents to further discuss their reopening plans. He said he

Walsh had a few words of encouragement for residents. "No matter how tough it's getting, I'm asking everyone to remember that we are Bostonians and we are strong," he said.

"We will get through this. Just think about taking it one day at a time. This, too, shall pass and we will move forward and come out of this stronger than before."

will discuss the importance of knowing immediately about any significant rise in coronavirus cases and how universities plan to adhere to state quarantine orders for students living on and off the campuses.

Last week, Boston Public Schools Superintendent Brenda Cassellius presented a "working" plan to the School Committee, detailing three separate setups for the upcoming syear, including a completely virtual format, in-person learning, and a hybrid model of both.

"I want to stress that it's a draft of the reopening plan," Walsh said on Tuesday. "BPS is following public health guidelines for reopening schools. They're been gathering feedback for months via survey, focus groups, and community meetings.

"Right now," he said, "we are looking at a hybrid model that would assign students into groups and bring them into schools on a rotating basis. That's what we're looking at today, but no matter what model is chosen, BPS has fully developed a plan for all remote as well if the cases go up before Sept. 10 or after that.'

"It's important that if there's a significant increase in cases, we have a chance to know it and get on top of it immediately," added Walsh.

"There's no one size that fits all, but all I know is that on Sept. 10, it will be almost six months to the day that students have not been in the classroom," he said. "As we get closer to school, based on the science and numbers we'll determine which option we go forward with."

Walsh had a few words of encouragement for residents. "No matter how tough it's getting, I'm asking everyone to remember that we are Bostonians and we are strong," he said.

 $\hbox{``We will get through this.}\, Just think$ about taking it one day at a time. This, too, shall pass and we will move forward and come out of this stronger than before.'

In Somerville, Mayor Joe Curtatone has taken a slower approach to allow business and social activity to resume. While most of the rest of the state has advanced to Phase 3 of the administration's plan to open movie theater, gyms and more, Somerville is waiting until at least early next month to permit most of those Phase 3 businesses.

In an interview Sunday with WBZ-TV's Jon Keller, Curtatone defended his approach and said he has two goals: "to ensure the public health, safety and wellbeing of everyone in our community and also to make sure that in any



Mayor Marty Walsh

reopening, that it sustainable.

"As we move forward and as we have been moving forward, we have to commend the governor, his administration, the commonwealth and everyone out there who has done their part to flatten the curve," he said. "But there are lessons to be learned and there's data that we should be fully looking at."

State House News Service reports contributed to this article.



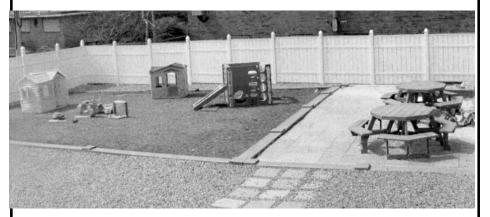
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US lawmakers pushing funds for Health Centers

By KATIE LANNAN STATE HOUSE News Service

A group of 57 US lawmakers, including seven from Massachusetts, on Monday wrote to Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar urging nim to provide additional funding for community health centers, which they said were "largely excluded" from a third round of disbursements from the federal Provider Relief Fund (PRF).

The letter was signed by Sen. Elizabeth Warren, Rep. Ayanna Pressley, Sen. Edward Markey, Rep. Joseph Kennedy III, Rep. Stephen Lynch, Rep. William Keating, and Rep. Lori Trahan. It says that while community health centers play an "outsized role" in the COVID-19 pandemic — during one week in June, according to the letter, the centers tested more than 130,000 patients, 69 percent of which were

of whom were racial or ethnic minorities — but have "suffered a serious financial toll.

"As the United States experiences a surge in COVID-19 cases and as the economic toll of the grow, it is imperative financial support as you these crucial health care continue to distribute providers, who treat these funds." many of the most vul-

positive and 57 percent nerable Americans, are provided funds to keep their doors open," the lawmakers wrote. "As such, we urge you to immediately reverse your decision to exclude CHCs from the PRF and provide these institu-



Study: Water quality dipped at Dot beaches last year

(Continued from page 1) Carson and M Street beaches actually improved from the year before.

Data gathered from weekly water quality testing at Boston's regional beaches began on May 23 of last year. Supplemental daily testing of Constitution Beach, King's Beach, Malibu Beach, Tenean Beach, and Wollaston Beach began on June 13; and all testing concluded on September 1.

Changes in the intensity and frequency of summer rainstorms last year is seen as a likely factor contributing to the variation in water quality, said Bruce Berman, director of strategy and communications for Save the Harbor / Save the Bay.

"The period that we looked at in this report included 12 months of the largest rainfall that we've had in 141 years of recorded history," said Berman. "And water quality of the three beaches in Dorchester is profoundly affected by rainfall. Of all of them the one that's most consistently affected is Tenean."

Still, the drop in scores for Dorchester's three beaches has raised some concern for nearby residents.

"It's disappointing that over time the water safety quality has decreased at our beaches when most of the others have improved," said Paul Nutting, a longtime Savin Hill resident who has been a leading advocate for local beaches and waterfront amenities in Dorchester.



On Monday, a jet skier enjoyed a ride across from the gas tank near where a man was killed when his jet ski crashed into a sailboat on Sunday. See Page 2. Bill Forry photo

"I know there's a seasonality to the testing and rain, but it seems like that might skew all of the results and not just the Dorchester ones."

Nutting said he suspects that pollution in the Neponset River— which empties into Dorchester Bay near Tenean Beach— might explain some of the discrepancies in water quality.

"There's definitely the influence of the Neponset River for our beaches, whereas at M Street beach or Carson they're getting more of an ocean flushing influence," he said. "During thunderstorms, all of it washes it down, and most of the others don't have the influence of a river coming into them nearby that could potentially affect the quality."

Berman agrees that the Neponset is likely a major contributor to the drop in scores last year. The Boston Water and Sewer Commission, he said, has done "a terrific job in addressing combined sewer and storm water overflows" near Tenean. Still, he added: "No matter what you do to clean up the

pipes at Tenean, the Neponset continues to be a challenge. A lot of the problems in the Neponset don't come from pipes; they come from runoff and stormwater."

Maria Lyons, who lives in Port Norfolk near Tenean Beach, said storm overflow is a "very troublesome problem" there. "The beaches in Dorchester are where the people of Boston go who don't have a house on the Cape or don't have a ton of money to leave the city," she said. "We have this wonderful opportunity and a lot of the time people can't go in the water," which, she added, "I consider an environmental injustice issue. Tenean was always the poor man's beach and it still is."

Lyons has for many years complained that the use of the adjacent Victory Road Park as "an offleash dog park" also contributes to poor water quality at Tenean.

"Nobody regulates that area and it's worn down and eroding away into the ocean. And of course all of the dog waste goes over to Tenean Beach," she said Lyons.

Efficacy of "flag system' queried

The report, issued last week, also identified a "critical weakness" with the way state officials alert the public to potential water quality hazards at the beaches. Currently, beach-goers are signaled by a red or blue flag flown from lifeguard stations at the beaches. (Blue means safe, red means unsafe.)

But, flag postings are always "a day late," Berman said, since officials have to wait 24 to 36 hours to get test results that inform the warnings.

"The flagging system is fairly simple. You take a sample, put it in a temperature-controlled room, and leave it for 24 hours," said Berman. "The tests identify the numbers of enterococcus bacteria in the samples, and if there are more than 103 colonies per milliliter of water, it exceeds the sample. This means that the flags are always 24 hours late, and that's a problem."

Berman says one potential solution to "do modeling, and look and see just how much storm water it takes to make a beach dirty. When you think you're going to have that much rain you put up a flag as a precaution."

Nutting also pointed to the issues with the current beach flagging system, noting that there has been talk "for some time" about changing the model of the signs to avoid a lag and improve accuracy.

"The current water quality testing system creates a lag time between when the test is taken and when the results come back and the flag goes up. It's flagged for the interim, but we don't know what happened in the interim," he said.

"There had been some talk about a year ago over creating some sign of modeling based on the amount of rain you get, meaning that beaches would close when we get a storm. You know, at what point does the amount of rain trigger a beach closure?"

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay plans to host three forums and a conference later this year and early in 2021 on "the future of public beaches." The organization says it will collaborate with community partners in waterfront neighborhoods and beachfront communities to address systemic racism, sea level rise, and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Berman says that lower rainfall this summer—so far—will likely lead to better water quality scores in next year's report.

"I expect that when we look at the water quality this year, we're going to see an improvement on almost all of our beaches, because there was less rain not because there were changes to the infrastructure," he said. "The past few years were good for farmers but bad for beaches, and this year it looks like it's going to be good for beaches and bad for farmers."

He added: "No matter what flag you see on the beach, use caution. If it rained in the last 24 hours, use caution."

Making cannabis products at home?

Be Safe and Know the Laws

- Adults 21+ can make marijuana products and grow up to six plants (12 for 2+ adults) in their home.
- It's illegal to use any gas or liquid (like propane and butane), other than alcohol, that has a flashpoint below 100°F when producing cannabis concentrates.
- These flammable materials can release vapors that may trigger explosions and fires in your home.
- High powered lamps, temperature controls, and significant ventilation may be needed when growing cannabis plants at home to reduce the risk of fire.
- Remember to follow all fire codes and safety practices to keep you and your neighbors safe







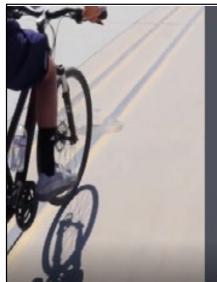


dotnews.com July 31, 2020 THE REPORTER Page 17



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER

of 🏏 🖸 in main



JOIN US FOR THE RIDE!

WE CAN DO IT TOGETHER. VIRTUALLY

HELP TURN \$300 into \$500 for BGCD by July 31st! BGCD Offered a Special \$5,000 Rodman Ride Match Opportunity: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT: BGCD Teens Take Part in Fitness Challenge in Partnership with New Balance: In partnership with New Balance and their \$35,000 grant to help fund our individual fitness and Fit DOT Program, Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester has created a new fitness challenge with our Teen Program this Summer. Our teens will be tracking the amount of steps that they take each week and challenge each other in hopes to have the most by the end of the week. At the end of each week, the teen with the most steps will be recognized as a fitness leader of the week. This is a great way to get moving and improve overall health and wellness. Thank you to New Balance for your generosity. This grant allows us to inspire our members to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle as well as encourages more fitness challenges over the Summer.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: BGCD Offered a Special \$5,000 Rodman Ride Match Opportunity: Please join our 2020 Virtual Rodman Ride Team today! This year is the 30th Anniversary of the Rodman Ride for Kids. Founder, Don Rodman and the Ride have always been committed to helping at risk kids no matter what the circumstances. Register today to bike 25 miles, 50 miles or choose your own adventure. All activities for the Ride can be completed on your own timeline or on Ride day of September 26th. We need 25 team members to register in the month of July to qualify for this amazing incentive. Each participant who commits to raising \$300 by Ride day, we will receive a matching gift for the Club for \$200! This works out to be \$5000 which will go directly to supporting the Club, which is a win, win! Please join us today at rodmanrideforkids.donordrive.com/ event/bgcd2020!



DID YOU KNOW:

BGCD Open For Limited Summer

Programming: Boys & Girls Clubs of
Dorchester has reopened our doors
to a limited capacity summer camp
for some of our members for the past
3 weeks. Through the help of our
Safety Advisory Task Force, we have
taken the most thorough strategies
to keep members and staff as safe
as possible throughout the entire
process. The majority of programming

as possible throughout the entire process. The majority of programming has been taking place outside with limited indoor capacity. Children and staff are screened for symptoms upon arrival each day via Google Forms. All members and staff are required to wear their masks and handwashing is required regularly throughout the day as well as adhering to social distancing practices.

Our members are thrilled to be back at the Clubs, and we are excited to have them back.

UPDATES

Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester "BGCD At Home" Virtual Programming Highlight:

This week's highlight is Music!

Music Director Carleton is providing virtual musical instrument and singing & voice lessons via Zoom!

For more information or to register your child, please email Carleton Burke at cburke@bgcdorchester.org or call 617-288-7120.



617.288.7120 | 1135 Dorchester Ave. | www.bgcdorchester.org

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Marina Aguilar Kianna Allen DiYannah Antoine Anyeli Arias-Soto Chase Arthur **Emelin Baez** Julian Baez Myrsaida Baron **Nayelis Bones** Christopher Burgos-Guerrero Carolina Cadillo Stephany Chirinos-Figueroa Nayeli Cintron **Chloe Connors** Arlyn Cosme Celsa Dasilva Jessica Daveiga **Christopher Diaz**

Darren Dorleans Jessica Elumogo Francisco Fermin Christian Ferreira Adam Gahn Kanyiah Ganga Alexander Garcia Freudy German Gionn Gonzalez Kayla Green Cristardy Guerrero Kiara Gunter Anne Hector Alyssa Hiduchick Shayna Hutton Andrew Jaimes Maria Jean-Baptiste **Arizandy Jones**

Vanessa Joseph Lamont Langaigne-Myers Ariel Laracuente Yari Lara-Romero Jolynne Limontas Tracy Mathurin J'Nasia McKenzie Ashley Mejia Polanco Samia Moon Jennifer Moreno-Semedo Jancarlos Moyet Barimah Okyere Adriel Peguero Loreliz Perez **Daviana Pimentel** Daviana Y. Pimentel Nicole Pimentel

Cruz Pineda

Jayden Robinson

Christian Rodriguez
Jasmine Rodriguez
Jasmine D. Rodriguez
Luis Rodriguez
Melanie Rosa
Briana Sanchez
Livia Sanchez
Amari Silva
Kyaisiah Skinner-Brown
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Leah Tarte
Esteban Tejeda
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Loren Vanegas
Marcela Villalta

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Seats still available for fall enrollment

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RECENT OBITUARIES



COVID-19 restrictions will be in place

Cedar Grove Cemetery

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415 Neponset Avenue

Dorchester, MA 02124

15 Broad Street

Boston, MA 02109

remains. Plant a tree program.

BUREY-CRUICK-SHANK, Alma H., 88 of Dorchester. Loving mother, grandmother. great-grandmother. She is also survived by a host of other relatives and dear friends.

CALLAHAN, Daniel J. Jr., 90, in Revere, formerly of Dorchester.



to St. Jude Children's Hospital, Research 501 St. Jude Pl., Memphis, TN 38105-9959.



LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DATE OF DEATH: 03/03/2019
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/01/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 21, 2020

Husband of the late Rose (DeRosa) Callahan. Survived by his devoted companion of 17 years, Frances D. Diglio. Brother of the late Mary Margaret Ash. Uncle of 2. Also survived by his 3 grandnephews. Retiree of Bradlee's Department Stores & Motorola Corp. Army Veteran of the Korean Conflict & member of the V.F.W. Mottollo Post #4524. Remembrances may be made



DUFFY, Edward L., 77, longtime Milton resident. Born and raised in Milton, Ed was a graduate of Boston College, class of '66. Following

MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE and FAMILY COURT
Docket No. SU19P1988EA
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
617-788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY
A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
ESTATE OF:
DOREEN I. WHITE
DATE OF DEATH: 03/03/2019

been filed by: Michael Storach of Green Harbor, MA requesting that the court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent's real estate at a private sale.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you

graduation, Ed spent two years in the Peace Corps in Ghana. Ed was a Senior Engineering Aide for the Town of Milton for 33 years. He was on the Milton Town Planning Board and Town Meeting member. He served as President of both the Eire's Society of Boston and the Milton Historical Society and he was the founder of the Blue Bell Tavern Society. Son of the late Charles and Margaret (O'Leary) Duffy. Brother of Charles Duffy and his wife, Ivy, of Rhode Island, and the late Arthur Duffy. Uncle of 2. Grand uncle of 3.



JOHNSON, Josephine Cecilia (Donnelly) of Boston, 92. Born in Braintree, lived in Boston. Wife of the late William Johnson. Sister of the late John Donnelly, Robert Donnelly, Elizabeth (Donnelly) Koutroubas, Elaine (Donnelly) Londergan, and Katherine (Donnelly) Roberts. Mother of the late William Johnson, Linda (Johnson) Walczak, MaryJean (Johnson) Fielding. Josephine is survived by her daughter, Joanne Johnson and spouse, Robert, Atterbury of Boston, as well as sons-in-law William Walczak, Justin Fielding, and Robert Gibson. Grandmother of Matthew Walczak and Elizabeth (Walczak) Carapezza and Rebecca (Fielding) Golson and Robert Fielding. Greatgrandmother to 3. Please consider donating to the MSPCA of Boston, 350 S. Huntington Ave., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.



MASTRORILLI, M. Tracey (Norton) of Hull. Wife of Frank Mastrorilli of Hull. Mother of Alycia Quill and her husband Rvan of Weymouth and Anthony Mastrorilli of Dorchester. Sister of Debra DelVecchio and her husband Michael of Brockton and Frederick J. Norton and his wife Maura of Hull. Grandmother 3. Tracey is also survived by many dear friends and extended family. She worked in the hospitality industry, starting in her earlier days at Aquarius night club bartending and continuing to work at various restaurants on the South Shore.



MESIDOR, Denise Renee, 30, of Boston, unexpectedly. She was the daughter of Pierre Charles Mesidor and the late Micheline (Mamousette) Mesidor. Denise attended Hig-Elementary ginson School, Curley Middle School and Dorchester High School. Denise later attended Bunker Hill Community College where she earned a Medical Assistant certification. She is survived by her father Pierre Charles Mesidor. Sisters

Valomy Mamousette, Bianca Paul, Barbara Mesidor, Charmaine Jones, Charlie Mesidor, and Charlys Mesidor. Brothers Abednego Mamousette and Roosevelt Mamousette and 16 nieces and nephews. Also the families Bazile, Daniel, Jones, Lenatus, Leonard, Mamouzette, Mesidor, Obas, Paillant, Rene, St.Fleur, St.Jean, and Theodore,



TUPLIN, **Travis** Shawn, 55, of Dorchester, unexpectedly. Travis leaves behind his wife Tracy and his 3 children, Jared and his wife Shannon of South Boston, Skyler and Sierra-Rose both of Boston. Dear Brother of Nick (Rose), Terry (Sue), Jeffrey (Amelia), Lorraine (Joe), Peter, Patricia, Mark, Martha (Tom), Luke (Carrie), Phillip, April (Chris). He is also survived by his 44 nieces and nephews and his father-in-law Murray McDonald. Travis was predeceased by his parents Rubin and Hazel Tuplin, Uncle Pee Wee and Mother-inlaw Timmy McDonald.

WALSH, John G. "Jack". He was born in Dorchester to the late William F. Walsh and Teresa C. (Broderick) Walsh in 1951. He was a longtime resident of the Fernald Center in Waltham before moving to Walpole in November 2014. Jack is the brother of William F. Walsh Jr., Thomas M. Walsh, Teresa C. Walsh Headlund, Diane Walsh McDonald and the late Robert J. Walsh. He leaves behind his family of caregivers and housemates at his home on Nightingale Farm Rd.

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS SUFFOLK, SS.
SUPERIOR COURT DEPT.
CIVIL ACTION NO.: 2084CV00545F

v.
MORTGAGE FUNDING CORP., and JOHN A. MERCAUTO, Defendants SUMMONS AND ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: MORTGAGE FUNDING CORP., AND JOHN A. MERCAUTO

WHEREAS, a civil action has been commenced against you in Suffolk County Superior Court, Suffolk County Courthouse, 12th Floor, Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 by wherein it seeks a declaratory judgment declaring that the Mortgage recorded with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 24317, Page 016 has been fully satisfied, is discharged pursuant to M.G.L. c. 183 § 15(a) and does not encumber the

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Douglas L. Whitaker, Esq., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Fidelity National Law Group, 125 High Street, Suite 1813, Boston, MA 02110, an answer to the complaint, which is herewith served upon you, within 20 days after the return date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You are required to file your answer to the complaint in the office of the Clerk of this court at Suffolk, either before service upon Plaintiff's attorney or within a reasonable time thereafter, but no later than August 21, 2020.

It appearing to this Court that actual service on these defendants cannot be, or has not been made, it is ORDERED that notice of this suit be given to them by publishing in a newspaper such as Dorchester Reporter, a newspaper of general circulation published in Suffolk County, Massachusetts, once a week for three consecutive weeks, the last unless otherwise provided by Rule 13(a), your answer must state as a counterclaim

any claim which you may have against the plaintiff which arises out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of plaintiffs claim or you will thereafter be barred from making such claim in any other action.

Witness, at Suffolk, the 2nd day of July, 2020.

SO ORDERED

Judge Mary K. Ames Suffolk Superior Court Judge

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT **PROBATE & FAMILY COURT** SUFFOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 617-788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION

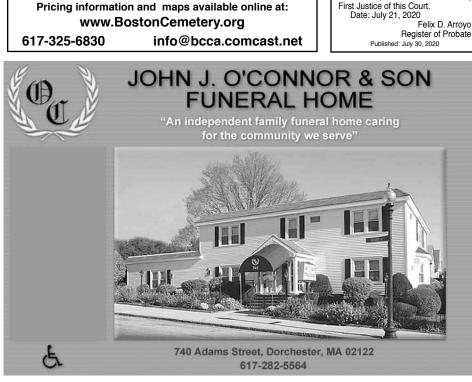
TO CHANGE NAME
Docket No. SU20C0150CA
IN THE MATTER OF: CARLA DEBORAH GREEN

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Carla Deborah Green of Dorchester MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Carla Deborah Green-El
IMPORTANT NOTICE

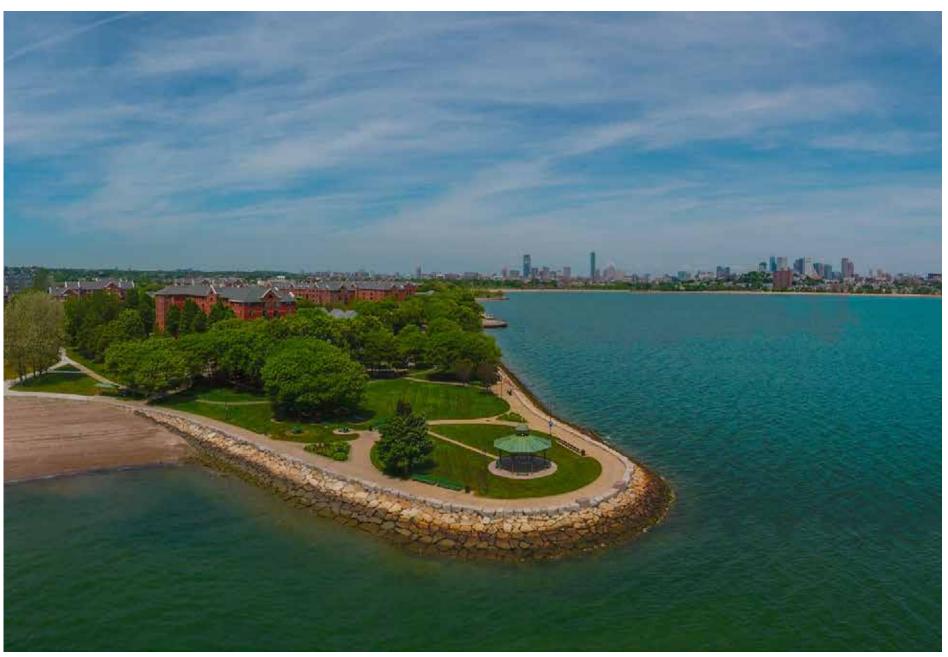
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **08/27/2020**. This is not a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 15, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo

Register of Probate Published: July 30, 2020



dotnews.com July 31, 2020 THE REPORTER Page 19



Harbor Point on the Bay, Dorchester, MA



Doubletree Hotel, Boston Bayside Dorchester, MA



Ocean Edge Resort & Golf Club Brewster, MA

Corcoran Jennison's portfolio includes, residential housing, hotels, resorts, health facilities, academic campuses, retail centers, and golf courses.

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Page 20 THE REPORTER July 31, 2020 dotnews.com

Congratulations to NAACP Boston

on its

Boston Freedom Weekend and Drive-In Soul Music Concert at Bayside Expo Plaza

Accordia is proud to support
NAACP Boston and its mission of
assuring equality and eliminating racism

Accordia is the developer of the former Bayside Expo Center site and committed to creating change through real estate development and investment. Change in ownership, businesses, jobs, training and education; with the goal of uplifting the communities we build in. Most importantly, we pursue diverse and inclusive change intended to address the wealth gap and create places that are healthy, safe, welcoming and inclusive of everyone!

